

For no name fits thy nature but thy owne.

Tam. Give me thy poynard, you that know my boyes
Your Mothers hand shall right your Mothers wrong.

Deme. Stay Madam heere is more belongs to her,
First chaffe the Come, then after burne the straw.

This Minion stood vpon her chastity,

Vpon her Nuptiall vow, her loyaltie,

And with that painted hope, braues your Mightinesse,

And shall she carry this vnto her graue?

Chi. And if she doe,

I would I were an Eunuch,

Drag hence her husband to some secret hole,

And make his dead Trunke Pillow to our lust.

Tamo. But when ye haue the hony we desire,

Let not this Waspe eue liue vs both to sting.

Chi. I warrant you Madam we will make that sure:

Come Mistris, now perforce we will enjoy,

That nice-preserved honesty of yours.

Lau. Oh Tamora, thou bear'st a woman face,

Tamo. I will not heare her speake, away with her.

Lau. Swears Lords, intreat her heare me but a word.

Deme. Listen faire Madam, let it be your glory.

To see her teares, but be your hart to them,

As vnto a flint, to drops of raine.

Lau. When did the Tigers young ones teach the dam?

O doe not learne her wrath, she taught it thee,

The milke thou suckt from her did turne to Marble,

Even at thy Feet thou hadst thy Tyranny,

Yet every Mother breeds not Sonnes alike,

Do thou intreat her shew a woman pittie.

Chiro. What?

Wouldst thou haue me proue my selfe a bastard?

Lau. 'Tis true.

The Raven doth not hatch a Larke,

Yet haue I heard, Oh could I finde it now,

The Lion mou'd with pittie, did indure

To haue his Princely pawes par'd all away.

Some say, that Ravens foster forlorne children,

The while't their owne birds famish in their nests:

Oh be to me though thy hart hart say no,

Nothing so kind but something pittifull.

Tamo. I know not what it means, away with her.

Lau. Oh let me teach thee for my Fathers sake,

That gaue thee life when well he might haue slaine thee:

Be not obdurate, open thy deafe eares.

Tamo. Hadst thou in person bene offended me,

Even for his sake am I pittifull:

Remember Boyes I pow'd forth teares in vaine,

To saue your brother from the sacrifice,

But fierce Andronicus would not relent,

Therefore away with her, and vse her as you will,

The worse to her, the better lou'd of me.

Lau. Oh Tamora,

Be call'd a gentle Queene,

And with thine owne hands kill me in this place,

For 'tis not life that I haue beg'd so long,

Poore I was slaine, when Bassianus dy'd.

Tamo. What beg'st thou then? fond woman let me go?

Lau. 'Tis present death I beg, and one thing more,

That womanhood denies my tongue to tell:

Oh keepe me from their worse then killing lust,

And tumble me into some loathsome pit,

Where neuer mans eye may behold my body,

Doe this, and be a charitable murderer.

Tamo. So should I rob my sweet Sonnes of their fee,

No let them satisfie their lust on thee.

Deme. Away,

For thou hast staid vs heere too long.

Lavinia. No Garace,

No womanhood? Ah beastly creature,

The blot and enemy to our generall name,

Confusion fall—

Chi. Nay then Ile stop your mouth

Bring thou her husband,

This is the Hole where Aaron bid vs hide him,

Tamo. Farewell my Sonnes, see that you make her sure,

Nere let my heart know merry theere indeed,

Till all the Andronicus be made away:

Now will I hence to seeke my louely Moore,

And let my spleenefull Sonnes this Trull deffoure. *Exit.*

Enter Aaron with two of Titus Sonnes.

Aron. Come on my Lords, the better foote before,

Straight will I bring you to the clothe some pit,

Where I espied the Panther fast asleepe.

Quin. My sight is very dull what ere it bodes.

Mari. And mine I promise you, were it not for shame,

Well could I leaue our sport to sleepe a while,

Quin. What art thou fallen to?

What subtle Hole is this?

Whose mouth is couered with Rude growing Briars,

Vpon whose leaues are drops of new-shed blood,

As fresh as mornings dew distill'd on flowers,

A very facill place it seemes to me:

Speake Brother, hast thou hurt thee with the fall?

Mari. Oh Brother,

With the distastfull object

That euer eye with sight made heart lament.

Aron. Now will I fetch the King to finde them heere,

That he thereby may haue a likely gesse,

How these were they that made away his Brother. *Exit Aaron.*

Mari. Why dost not comfort me and helpe me out,

From this vnhallow'd and blood-stained Hole?

Quintus. I am surpris'd with an vncouth feare,

A chilling sweat ore-runs my trembling ioynts,

My heart suspects more then mine eie can see.

Mari. To proue thou hast a true diuining heart,

Aaron and thou looke downe into this den,

And see a fearefull sight of blood and death.

Quintus. Aaron is gone,

And my compassionate heart

Will not permit mine eyes once to behold

The thing whereat it trembles by surmise:

Oh tell me how it is, for nere till now

Was I a child, to feare I know not what.

Mari. Lord Bassianus lies embrewed heere,

All on a heape like to the slaughterd Lambe,

In this detested, darke, blood-drinking pit.

Quin. If it be darke, how dost thou know 'tis he?

Mari. Vpon his bloody finger he doth weare

A precious Ring, that lightens all the Hole:

Which like a Taper in some Monument,

Doth shine vpon the dead mans earthly cheekes,

And shewes the ragged intrails of the pit:

So pale did shine the Moone on Piramus,

When he by night lay bath'd in Maiden blood:

O Brother helpe me with thy fainting hand,

If feare hath made thee faint, as mee it hath,

Out of this fell deuouring receptacle,

As hatefull as *Orcus* mistie mouth.

Quin. Reach me thy hand, that I may helpe thee out.

Or wanting strength to doe thee so much good,

I may be pluckt into the swallowing wombe,

Of this deepe pit, poore Bassianus graue:

I haue no strength to plucke thee to the brink.

Mari. Nor I no strength to clime without thy help.

Quin. Thy hand once more, I will not loose againe,

Till thou art heere aloft, or I below,

Thou canst not come to me, I come to thee. *Both fall in.*

Enter the Emperour, Aaron the Moore.

Satur. Along with me, Ile see what hole is heere,

And what he is that now is leapt into it.

Says, who art thou that lately didst descend,

Into this gaping hollow of the earth?

Mari. The vnhappie sonne of old Andronicus,

Brought hither in a most vnluckie houre,

To finde thy brother Bassianus dead.

Satur. My brother dead? I know thou dost but iest,

He and his Lady both are at the Lodge;

Vpon the North-side of this pleasant Chase,

'Tis not an houre since I left him there.

Mari. We know not where you left him all aliue,

But our alas, heere haue we found him dead.

Enter Tamora, Andronicus, and Lucius.

Tamo. Where is my Lord the King?

King. Heere Tamora, though grieu'd with killing griefe.

Tamo. Where is thy brother Bassianus?

King. Now to the bottom do thou search my wound,

Poore Bassianus heere lies murdered.

Tamo. Then all too late I bring this fatal writ,

The complot of this timelesse Tragedie,

And wonder greatly that mans face can fold,

In pleasing smiles such murderous Tyrannie.

She giueth Saturnine a Letter.

Saturninus reads the Letter.

And if we misse to meete him hanfomely,

Sweet hunt smite, Bassianus 'tis we meane,

Do thou so much as dig the graue for him,

Thou know'st our meaning, looke for thy reward

Among the Nettles at the Elder tree:

Whichever shades the mouth of that same pit,

Where we decreed to bury Bassianus

Doe this and purchase vs thy lasting friends.

King. Oh Tamora, was euer heard the like?

This is the pit, and this the Elder tree,

Looke sirs, if you can finde the huntsman out,

That should haue murdered Bassianus heere.

Aron. My gracious Lord heere is the bag of Gold.

King. Two of thy whelpes, fell Curs of bloody kind

Haue heere bereft my brother of his life:

Sirs drag them from the pit vnto the prison,

There let them bide vntill we haue deuiz'd

Some neuer heard-of torturing paine for them.

Tamo. What are they in this pit,

Oh wondrous thing!

How easily murder is discovered?

Tit. High Emperour, vpon my feeble knee,

I beg this boone, with teares, not lightly shed,

That this fell fault of my accursed Sonnes,

Accursed, if the faultes be prou'd in them,

King. If it be prou'd? you see it is apparant,

Who found this Letter, Tamora was it you?

Tamora. Andronicus himselfe did take it vp.

Tit. I did my Lord,

Yet let me be their baile.

For by my Fathers reuerent Tombe I vow

They shall be ready at your Highnes will,

To answere their suspicion with their liues.

King. Thou shalt not baile them, see thou follow me:

Some bring the murdered body, some the murderers,

Let them not speake a word, the guilt is plaine,

For by my soule, were there worse end then death,

That end vpon them should be executed.

Tamo. Andronicus I will entreat the King,

Feare not thy Sonnes, they shall do well enough.

Tit. Come Lucius come,

Stay not to talke with them. *Exeunt.*

Enter the Emperesse Sonnes, with Lavinia, her hands cut off and

her tongue cut out, and drunke.

Deme. So now goe tell and if thy tongue can speake,

Who 'twas that cut thy tongue and rauisht thee.

Chi. Write downe thy mind, bewray thy meaning so,

And if thy stumps will let thee play the Scribe;

Deme. See how with signes and tokens she can scowle.

Chi. Goe home,

Call for sweet water, wash thy hands.

Deme. She hath no tongue to call, nor hands to wash.

And so let's leaue her to her silent walks,

Chi. And were my cause, I should goe hang my selfe.

Deme. If thou hadst hands to helpe thee knit the cord.

Exeunt.

Winde Hornes.

Enter Marcus from hunting, to Lavinia.

Who is this, my Neece that flies away so fast?

Cosen a word, where is your husband?

If I doe dreame, would all my wealth would wake me;

If I doe wake, some Planet strike me downe,

That I may slumber in eternall sleepe.

Speake gentle Neece, what Aene vrgent hands

Hath lopt, and hew'd, and made thy body bare

Of her two branches, those sweet Ornaments

Whole circkling shadowes, Kings haue sought to sleepe in

And might not gaine so great a happines

As halfe thy Loue: Why dost not speake to me?

Alas, a Crimson river of warme blood,

Like to a bubling fountaine stir'd with winde,

Doth rise and fall betweene thy Rosed lips,

Comming and going with thy hony breath.

But sure some Terens hath deflower'd thee,

And least thou shouldst detect them, cut thy tongue.

Ah, now thou turn'st away thy face for shame;

And notwithstanding all this losse of blood,

As from a Conduit with their issuing Spouts,

Yet doe thy cheekes looke red as *Tians* face;

Blushing to be encountred with a Cloud,

Shall I speake for thee? shall I say 'tis so?

Oh that I knew thy hart, and knew the beast

That I might raile at him to ease my mind.

Sorrow concealed, like an Ouen stoppt,

Doth burne the hart to Cinders where it is.

Faire *Philomela* she but lost her tongue,

And in a tedious Sampler sowed her minde.